



Health Department
County of La Crosse, Wisconsin

300 4th Street North • 2nd Floor
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601-3228
(608) 785-9872 • FAX: (608) 785-9846
www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

OBTAINING A SANITARY PERMIT AND WELL PERMIT

A Certified Soil Tester should be contacted to conduct a soil and site evaluation if an approved soil evaluation (perc test) does not exist. A list of local Certified Soil Testers is available from the Health Department. With the aid of backhoe pits, the CST looks for factors which will provide information to assist in the design of a safe and effective septic system. Factors include slope, soil texture-structure, depth to seasonal high groundwater and/or bedrock and others.

The CST contacts La Crosse County prior to the soil evaluation so an On-Site Inspection can be conducted by a County Sanitarian. The On-Site is to confirm the findings of the CST.

Once the site has an approved soil evaluation, the next step is to contact the installing plumber or a designer to design the septic system. If the site requires an At-Grade, Mound, Pressurized In-Ground, or Commercial system then a State Plan Approval is required by the Department of Commerce. This can take 1 to 4 weeks depending on how busy the construction season is. After State Approval, the installing plumber submits a Sanitary Permit Application to the La Crosse County Health Department.

If the site is suitable for an In-Ground (Conventional) system, or a Holding Tank a Sanitary Permit Application is made to the Health Department by the installing plumber for review and approval.

For new construction, a Well Permit will also be required (if applicable). Please contact a local Well Driller so that an application can be submitted to the Health Department. A list of local Well Drillers is available from the Health Department. The Well Driller will need to know the proposed location of the well for the application procedure.

Prior to receiving a Zoning/Occupancy Permit the Sanitary and Well Permit Applications must be made to the Health Department.

- Note:*
1. Sanitary Permits are valid for 2 years from date of issuance and can be renewed.
 2. Well Permits are valid for 1 year from date of issuance. Well permits cannot be renewed. New application must be made.
 3. Fee(s) for these permits must be submitted with the permit application.

3/2012